

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

Your request for information has now been considered and the Council's response to your questions is shown below.

You asked:

I have in my possession a document called 'The Oath of Freemen of the Borough of Leicester'. It was for my many times great grandfather William Wood, a bricklayer, and was granted in 1826. Can you tell me anything else about what being a 'freeman' means or give me other information. Does the Leicester Council have other records of William Wood?

Thank you for your enquiry about Hereditary Freeman. From our record books we have located the following entry for William Wood:

26 May 1826 - William Wood, bricklayer, apprentice of Robert Johnson, bricklayer, who was the second son of John Moore Johnson.

Full information about the history of Hereditary Freeman can be found on the Gild of Freeman site at <http://www.leicester-freemen.com/Freemen-s-Holt> which also includes details of how to apply to become a Freeman. Applications are administered through the Civic Office at Leicester City Council, and following verification of their eligibility, applicants are then invited to a Hereditary Freeman Ceremony to be made "free".

If you require any further information, please feel free to contact us at the Civic Office on 0116 223 2000.

The legislation allows you to use the information supplied for your own personal use. Please be aware that any commercial or other use, for example publication, sale, or redistribution may be a breach of copyright under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 as amended unless you obtain the copyright holder's prior permission.

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If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request please write to:

**Information Governance Manager
Information and Support
Leicester City Council
FREEPOST (LE985/33)
New Walk Centre
LEICESTER LE1 6ZG**

e-mail: info-requests@leicester.gov.uk

Your request for internal review should be submitted to the above address within 40 (forty) working days of receipt by you of this response. Any such request received after this time will only be considered at the Council's absolute discretion.

You can also complain to the Information Commissioner at:

**Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow SK9 5AF
Telephone: 01625 545 700
www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk**

Please be aware that the Information Commissioner does not normally consider appeals or complaints until the internal appeals and complaints processes of the public authority which is answering the request have been exhausted. You are therefore advised to complain or appeal to the Information Governance Manager before contacting the Commissioner.